

VIII. *A Letter from Dr P. Silvestre, of the Coll. of  
Phy. & F. R. S. to the Publisher, giving an account  
of some new Books and Manuscripts in Italy.*

Legorne, Ap. 16. 1700. N. S.

IN general, every thing is very much cool'd here since the death of *Malpighi*, there are scarce any who apply themselves to the study of Nature. His Antaognist *Sbaragli* told me in passing through *Bononia* that he intended to give something to the publick, upon the secretions and structure of the Glands, as also upon the use of the Nerves. Senior *John Baptista Triumphetti* is going to Print a Botanic discourse, he will add the Figures of some Plants that have not yet been described. Senior *Lancisi* has promised to send me some consultations of *Malpighi*, with Notes after his manner, and some other *opuscula*, which will make a good supplement to the Posthumous works of *Malpighi*. I have brought from *Naples* two new Books, one contains some Dissertations concerning Acids, and the ferment of the Stomach, wrote by *Sanguinetus* the other, which is of Mr *Monforte* is *de siderum distantis*. The Voyage round the World of *Monfieur Gimelli* is printed in 6 Vol in 12°. They are printing at *Venice* another work of a *Neapolitan*, which has this Title, *Dominici Antis Prodrumus de origine & progressu medicine*. I saw at passing *Florrence*, *Monfieur Bellini*, he is at present busie in writing the Anatomy of the Body of Man, in the *Tuscan* Language. He assured me this work was wrote so clearly, and that he had taken such pains to explain the functions, by examples from ordinary Mechanicks, and the commonest things, that the most ignorant could understand them. He spoke to me likewise of another work

work of his in *Latin* upon the effects of the Barometer, where he explains *a Priori* the *equilibrium* of Liquors. I pressed him to publish this last, and to finish what he has only begun, I mean his Treatise *de villo contractili & contractione naturali*. At Rome, I saw some Manuscripts of the late famous Borelli at the *Scholæ pie*, where he died. One of them is a discourse of his *de volatu hominum*, wherein by Mechanicks he pretends to make up the natural defects a man has to fly. There are also many other Academical discourses, amongst the rest one *de veterum triremibus*, and a supplement to his Book *de incendio montis Ætnæ*. There are some of these not perfected, but that *de volatu hominum* was fitted for the Press, and left out by the publishers of his Books *de motu Animalium*, where the Author intended it should have been inserted. Some others of these Academical Discourses were by him read in the Academy of the Queen of Sweden, and ready for the Press. I had almost forgot to tell you that I saw at Bononia, a very fine preparation of the Human Organ of hearing, where all the parts of the Ear from the outward Cartilage to the place where the Auditory Nerves begin to distribute themselves are kept together without any separation; the Author thereof Senior Valsalva told me he would speedily publish something, not being satisfy'd with what is already made publick upon that subject.

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